

EXCISE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE SECRETARY

July 26, 1958

SECRETMEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH
CHANCELLOR ADENAUER
(Bonn, Germany)

In my private talks with the Chancellor I dealt with the following topics:

1. Meeting with De Gaulle

I did not think that the Chancellor need feel that his own stature would in any wise be diminished if he went to see General De Gaulle. I thought that there was a general disposition in world opinion to be critical of De Gaulle because of the great importance he attached to matters of protocol but that the Chancellor was considered to be above these things and, therefore, to be a truly great statesman.

2. I spoke of the problem of Israel in the Middle East and the danger that if Jordan fell apart Israel might want to take over the right bank of the Jordan River, and that this might precipitate an Arab-Israeli war which could have serious consequences. I mentioned that I would be seeing Ambassador Eban on this subject in London Sunday morning.

3. I said that the UK seemed to be rather panicky about a quick meeting with the Russians regarding the Mid East.

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4. I said that I thought that the French sympathy toward the Khrushchev proposal was due to the fact that it gave them a special position along with the US and UK whereas a meeting in the UN Security Council would not have those consequences.

5. I said I did not share the Chancellor's concern that France might make a private deal with the Russians based upon obtaining weapons quality

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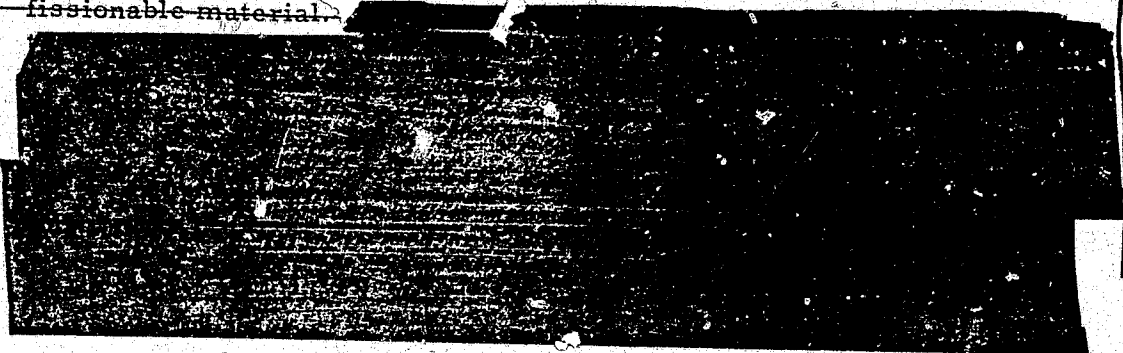
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of Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, Virginia, arrived to stay with us. Years ago Stansbury had gone down to Stanton Hill with the Ghikas and was much taken with it.

Sunday August 24, 1958

I had a talk with Stansbury this morning and a walk with Bill Tyler who returned here from leave yesterday afternoon. Al Wells, ~~and~~ his daughter, ~~and~~ Pe Wiener and her children lunched with us.

To the office this afternoon.

The Pleasants' and Tyler dined with us.

Monday, August 25, 1958

I took the train at 7:40 this morning for Heidelberg. The Lassetters and Al Wells went along.

I had a talk there with General Timberlake, Deputy for General Everest, about the fairly frequent violations by U. S. aircraft of the Soviet Zone.

I did not have much business to transact except with General Hodes.

We settled several outstanding issues. Most of the Generals were on hand for lunch. Afterwards I talked to the conference about political questions arising from our Middle Eastern policy.

Mary Feltz and Professor Stansbury left today. Both of them are intensely interested in music and Henry Pleasants' conversation with them

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position that administration of the East Zone is entirely a matter for the GDR. Third, communication by air, i. e., helicopter, can probably be made very difficult, if not impossible for us, if we attempt to employ it as a regular means of communication. On the other hand, the Soviet position that the East Germans have authority over the intervening territory can be assumed by us to mean that we will have to deal only with the East Germans in the event we wish to send forces from the Western Sector to Steinstuecken.

4. The uproar in the German press will undoubtedly die down and, in the absence of any further aggressive moves by the Communists, Steinstuecken will be mentioned rarely in the press. The Soviet Commandant had admitted that Steinstuecken is part of the American Sector (see Berlin's 125 Aug. 12 and 134 Aug. 14). Although the probabilities seem to be against another incursion, the possibility always remains, and the adverse psychological results would be great if the East Germans again invaded Steinstuecken and were met by no stronger U. S. response than resulted from this incident.

5. From the above, it is concluded that:

(a) On balance it is probably impractical to attempt to garrison the area permanently.

(b) Dependent on the nature of the information hereafter developed, and the results of General Hamlett's future conversations with Zakharov, it may be necessary to take further measures in respect to the incident of August 8.

(c) A decision should be made now as to what we would do were there another such incident. The consequent action should be speedy and forceful.

6. It is recommended that:

(a) Appropriate steps be taken to insure rapid communications directly or indirectly between Steinstuecken and U. S. Military Headquarters Berlin.

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Young Breck, with letters of introduction from John Hughes and James Bruce, came to see me. He is a Groton-Harvard graduate. His father, who was assistant to Parker Gilbert in Reparation Days in the Twenties, sent him over this summer to work in a German private bank, so as to improve his knowledge of the language. He is shortly going to Balliol College, Oxford, to study law. A fine type.

Went over with Ides van der Gracht the situation about the Tiergarten property. Also my grief upon arriving at the Spechtstrasse house this morning, at being smacked in the face by its new custard-pie color.

We dined tonight at the Gufiers where the other guests were: Mayor and Mrs. Brandt, Senator Weltzien (Finance), Rektor and Mrs. Schenck, Ambassador and Mrs. Grewe, Mr. and Mrs. Findley Burns, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. B. J. Ledwige (British Political Adviser), Rebecca Wellington (in Berlin on vacation).

Think I did a little fruitful business with Brandt over the Tiergartenstrasse and hospital propositions.

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and those of the head people at the Foreign Office who are back from vacation. The luncheon was held at the Foreign Minister's residence in Venusburg, an attractive house.

I went to see Francois Seydoux at six o'clock. Seydoux said final arrangements have not been made as to who would attend the De Gaulle - Adenauer meetings. He thought they would talk alone except for interpreters and then have a dinner at which the Ambassadors, Foreign Ministers and others would be present, after which the private conversation would resume. Adenauer would spend the night at DeGaulle's house at Colombey les Deux Eglises. Seydoux told me he had only met DeGaulle twice in his life.

Al Gruenther and I dined alone tonight. He is still closely in the confidence of the President and told me many interesting things.

Friday, September 12, 1958

Henry Pleasants and I left at nine o'clock this morning for Frankfurt. We were met by John Bross and taken to a house in the suburbs where Allen Dulles is staying. Allen looked ~~very~~ well, as did Clover. A grandson named after Allen is to be christened this afternoon.

Dulles had recently been in France and believes the Constitution will be approved by a considerable majority, but no solution is yet in the offing for the Algerian problem.

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